

FY 2021 Trailer Appropriation**S1356****Department: Judicial Branch****Sponsor(s): Raybould****Division(s): Court Operations****Program(s): District Courts****Description(s): District Judge & Court Reporter (S1356; Senate 2/28/20; House 3rd Reading)****1. Background:**

S1356 adds one new district judge position with resident chambers in Bonner County, beginning October 1, 2020. There are currently 46 district judges statewide (including administrative district judges). Of the 46 district judges, six are chambered in the First Judicial District and one in Bonner County. Also, the Supreme Court has an appropriation for 46 court reporters, one for each district judge. The last enhancement for judges in the First Judicial District occurred in FY 2016, when the Supreme Court received an appropriation for one magistrate judge in Kootenai County; and in FY 2007, when the Supreme Court was appropriated a district judge for Kootenai County.

The action, below, includes the addition of 2.00 FTP, 1.00 for a district judge and 1.00 for the associated court reporter. Also included is: (a) 75% of the associated ongoing personnel costs, i.e., salaries for the district judge (\$139,200) and court reporter (\$63,600), as well as variable benefit and health benefit costs; (b) 75% of the ongoing associated operating expenditures, i.e., travel costs (\$10,000); and (c) 100% of the onetime associated operating expenditures, i.e., computer equipment (\$5,000). This action would need to be annualized as a maintenance adjustment in FY 2022.

2. Action:**District Courts:**

Fund	Type	OT	FTP	PC	OE	CO	TB	LS	Total
0001-00	Gen		2.00	253,300	7,500	0	0	0	260,800
0001-00	Gen	✓	0.00	0	5,000	0	0	0	5,000
Total			2.00	253,300	12,500	0	0	0	265,800

3. Motion:**a. Motion:**

"I move for fiscal year 2021, for the Supreme Court, in the District Courts Program, an ongoing General Fund increase of 2.00 FTP, \$253,300 in personnel costs, and \$7,500 in operating expenditures, as well as a onetime General Fund increase of \$5,000 in operating expenditures, for the purpose of a district judge and a court reporter. The total for this motion is \$265,800 from the General Fund. This motion also includes lump sum authority."

b. Discussion:

"This motion aligns the court's budget to reflect the cost of adding a new district judge and court reporter, as required by S1356."